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THE SOLAR ECLIPSE OF AUGUST 29-30, 1905.

Detailed reports from the Crocker Eclipse Expeditions from the Lick Observatory have not yet been received, but cable messages from Director CAMPBELL, at Alhama de Aragon, Spain, and Professor HUSSEY, at Assouan, Egypt, state that the entire programme was successfully carried out. At the Labrador station, according to a message from Dr. CURTIS, the eclipse was not seen, owing to storms which apparently extended over a wide area. Dr. CAMPBELL states that the corona had no prominent streamers, but was circular, as in 1893. In our December issue we hope to print a general account of the three expeditions from this Observatory, with illustrations. Press dispatches report successful results at all stations along the path of the eclipse from Spain to Egypt.

R. G. A.

THE MOTION OF 13 *CETI* = Ho 212.

Three recent observations of this interesting binary system show that the companion star is now in the third quadrant. The mean of these measures is:—

$$1905.60 \quad 208^{\circ}.2 \quad 0''.13 \quad 3'' \quad 36\text{-inch}$$

The two components were distinctly separated at the time of the third observation, and as they differ very decidedly in magnitude there is no doubt about the quadrant. Dr. SEE measured this pair at Washington on one night in 1899.97, obtaining  $250^{\circ}.7 \quad 0''.28$ , a result which was confirmed here the following year, when three nights' measures with the 36-inch gave the position—

$$1900.70 \quad 261^{\circ}.0 \quad 0''.21$$

As my measures since 1900 have shown that the motion is direct,—that is, that the position-angles increase with the time,—it appears that the companion star has described an arc of fully  $300^{\circ}$  about its primary in less than *six* years. It is therefore now certain that 13 *Ceti* must rank with  $\delta$  *Equulei* and  $\kappa$  *Pegasi* as one of the most rapid of known visual binaries; in fact, an orbit with a period of 7.1 years will represent all the observations satisfactorily, and will also account for BURNHAM's failure to see the companion in 1877 and in 1890-91.

R. G. AITKEN.

September 25, 1905.